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Food and Nutrition

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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

FOOD COUPON ALLOTMENTS INCREASED

FOOD STAMP COUPON allotments will be increased on January 1, 1974 for all participants in the food stamp program in the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia. The Food Stamp Act, amended by the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973, provides for an adjustment of coupon allotments twice a year to reflect changes in the prices of food as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The allotment increases are based on the cost of the USDA economy food plan as it is computed from Bureau of Labor Statistics food prices. The cost of the economy plan through August 31, 1973 was \$141.60 for a family of four with schoolchildren. Accordingly, USDA will raise the value of the coupon allotment from \$116 to \$142 for a family of four and make appropriate adjustments for other household sizes.

The maximum income eligibility standards will also increase for all household sizes, except the one-person household. This is because under food stamp regulations, income eligibility standards are set at the income poverty guidelines (issued by the Secretary of Agriculture based on the Census Bureau's poverty levels statistics) or at the level at which the total coupon allotment equals 30 percent of income,

whichever is higher. In the case of the one-person household the poverty income cut-off is higher, and therefore, eligibility standards do not change.

The maximum income standard for the four-person household will increase from \$387 to \$473.

Separate allotments and eligibility standards for Alaska and Hawaii will be implemented when costs of the economy food plan in those States are available.

More than 95 percent of the more than 12 million participants will benefit from the changes. None of the current participants will receive less benefits, except for a very few large size households at the upper income ranges.

Maximum eligibility standards by household size starting January 1 are:

One.....	\$183	Five.....	\$560
Two.....	260	Six.....	646
Three.....	373	Seven.....	726
Four.....	473	Eight.....	806

For each additional household member over eight add \$67 to the eight-person eligibility level.

FOOD STAMP ALLOTMENTS AND PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS (Effective January 1, 1974)

48 States and District of Columbia	Number of Persons in Household:							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Monthly Coupon Allotment:								
	\$42	\$78	\$112	\$142	\$168	\$194	\$218	\$242
Monthly Purchase Requirement:								
Monthly Net Income								
\$ 0 to 19.99	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
20 to 29.99	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
30 to 39.99	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5
40 to 49.99	6	7	7	7	8	8	8	8
50 to 59.99	8	10	10	10	11	11	12	12
60 to 69.99	10	12	13	13	14	14	15	16
70 to 79.99	12	15	16	16	17	17	18	19
80 to 89.99	14	18	19	19	20	21	21	22
90 to 99.99	16	21	21	22	23	24	25	26
100 to 109.99	18	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
110 to 119.99	21	26	27	28	29	31	32	33
120 to 129.99	24	29	30	31	33	34	35	36
130 to 139.99	27	32	33	34	36	37	38	39
140 to 149.99	30	35	36	37	39	40	41	42
150 to 169.99	31	38	40	41	42	43	44	45
170 to 189.99	32	44	46	47	48	49	50	51
190 to 209.99		50	52	53	54	55	56	57
210 to 229.99		56	58	59	60	61	62	63
230 to 249.99		58	64	65	66	67	68	69
250 to 269.99		58	70	71	72	73	74	75
270 to 289.99			76	77	78	79	80	81
290 to 309.99			82	83	84	85	86	87
310 to 329.99			88	89	90	91	92	93
330 to 359.99			94	95	96	97	98	99
360 to 389.99			94	104	105	106	107	108
390 to 419.99				113	114	115	116	117
420 to 449.99				118	123	124	125	126
450 to 479.99				118	132	133	134	135
480 to 509.99					140	142	143	144
510 to 539.99					140	151	152	153
540 to 569.99					140	160	161	162
570 to 599.99						162	170	171
600 to 629.99						162	179	180
630 to 659.99						162	182	189
660 to 689.99							182	198
690 to 719.99							182	202
720 to 749.99							182	202
750 to 779.99								202
780 to 809.99								202

For each additional household member over eight add \$20 to the eight person allotment.

FNS DESIGNATES MORE COUNTIES FOR FOOD STAMPS

IN KEEPING WITH the Congressional mandate for a nationwide food stamp program by June 30, 1974, FNS designated an additional 110 counties in seven States on Nov. 8 and 43 counties in five States on Nov. 12, for a total of 153 counties in eight different States.

With 83 of the designated counties in Missouri, the State now has all of its 114 counties operating or designated to operate food stamp programs. Twenty-seven other States have statewide operation or are designated for statewide operation.

Nationally the status of county participation in family food programs is: 2736 food stamp counties (operating or designated); 327 food distribution counties; 59 combination counties (having food stamps in one part of the county and food distribution in another part of the county); seven counties without a program.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMS

ON NOVEMBER 7, President Nixon signed into law P.L. 93-150, "To amend the National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Acts for the purpose of providing additional Federal financial assistance to the school lunch and school breakfast programs."

Provisions in the new law which are of major importance include:

- An increase from not less than 8 cents to not less than 10 cents in the average Federal payment for all lunches.

- A change in the way the additional Federal assistance for free and reduced-price lunches is calculated. The bill guarantees to each State for every free lunch served a payment of not less than 45 cents, and for every reduced-price

lunch served a payment 10 cents less than the free lunch payment. The States will determine the level of payment to individual schools within a maximum per lunch amount of not less than 60 cents, to be established by the Secretary of Agriculture. This change eliminates the Federal commitment for payments above the average rate specified by the Secretary to especially needy schools.

- Provision for establishment of average payments of not less than 8 cents for all breakfasts served; not less than 28 cents for free breakfasts and not less than 23 cents for reduced-price breakfasts.

- A requirement for a semi-annual cost-of-living adjustment in the basic Federal support for lunches and breakfasts.

- An extension of the Special Supplemental Food Program (WIC) through fiscal year 1975 with an authorization of \$40 million.

- A requirement to provide milk under the Special Milk Program to all schools and child-care institutions that request it, and to provide free milk to children who are eligible for a free lunch.

- The addition of two new members to the National Advisory Council on Child Nutrition--a rural and an urban school food service supervisor.

- Authority to make up with cash payments shortfalls in distribution of donated foods for the child nutrition programs.

- Provision for USDA to conduct a comprehensive study of the child nutrition programs and to report findings and recommendations to Congress by June 30, 1974.

TWO NEW COOPERATORS IN THE SCHOOL LUNCH CAMPAIGN

THE AMERICAN LEGION and the Council for American Private Education have joined the "no program schools" campaign.

The Council for American Private Education (CAPE) has furnished FNS with names of all 12,000 schools represented by the organization. FNS has broken them down by Region and State, so that interested schools can be advised as to how they can start feeding programs.

Last August the Legion adopted a Resolution to aid the child nutrition programs. This fall the group is holding a series of area conferences where FNS officials are providing suggestions on how to get started.

FOOD PROGRAM PEOPLE

EARL HUNIGAN IS the new Deputy Administrator for Management in the Food and Nutrition Service. He comes to FNS from the Federal Aviation Administration, where he was Executive Officer of the Southern Region. There he was responsible for all of FAA's budget, audit, manpower, accounting, management systems, logistics, and air transporta-

tion security activities in the eight southeastern States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Canal Zone. Mr. Hunigan has also served as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Administration, Personnel Officer for FAA's Washington Area Office, and Assistant Director of Civilian Personnel for the Coast Guard.

EUGENE PITMAN, a program specialist in FNS' Food Distribution Division, has received a USDA Certificate of Appreciation for his work with community groups in the Washington, D.C. area. Mr. Pitman received the award for his "unselfish and dedicated" work in Project 400, where he acted as counselor to students at Ribaut Junior High School, and for his involvement in SOME (So Others Might Eat), a program that aids indigent alcoholics.

SOME serves more than 4,200 meals a month to the poor. In addition to USDA-donated foods, SOME receives free food from supermarkets, an industrial catering company and a franchised fried chicken drive-in. The program is operated by a private group, headed by sociologist Dr. Veronica Mazo.

